



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Electricity

First Poultry Litter-Fired Power Plant in U.S. to Begin Operation in Minnesota

The 55-megawatt plant, located in Benson, Minnesota, is designed to process approximately 500,000 tons of poultry litter, in combination with other agricultural biomass, per year. The plant, slated to begin operation this June, will use propane or natural gas as its start-up fuel. Xcel Energy has agreed to purchase output from the plant as part of its obligation under a state mandate to buy 125MW of electricity produced from biomass. Similar plants are being planned for other major poultry producing states.

<http://www.nj.com/newsflash/business/index.ssf?/base/business-74/1179939560217900.xml&storylist=business>
<http://www.fibrowattusa.com/US-Benson/BensonPlant.html>

CEC Extends Restrictions to Municipal Utilities on Purchase of Electricity from Power Plants That Exceed Strict Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards

On May 23, the California Energy Commission (CEC) approved regulations that prohibit municipal utilities in California from entering into new long-term financial commitments with plants exceeding 1,100 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per megawatt hour. By this action, the CEC extends to the municipals the restrictions that applied to investor owned utilities that were adopted in January. California's anti-pollution laws are the most stringent in the U.S. This effort is part of the plan to reduce emissions of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases by 25 percent by 2020.

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/fn/4832541.html>
<http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/california/la-me-coal24may24.1.2572315.story?coll=la-headlines-pe-california>

Plutonic Power to Build 196 MW Hydroelectric Project in British Columbia

Construction of the East Toba River and Montrose Creek project is scheduled to begin this summer. A new 90-mile transmission line will also be built for this project.

BSW, 09:00 May 24, 2007

TVA's 1,155 MW Brown's Ferry 1 Nuke in Alabama Shut During Startup May 24

Bloomberg News, 11:45 May 24, 2007

TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas Shut May 23

TXU shut the unit due to a boiler tube leak.

Reuters, 11:41 May 24, 2007

PSEG's 1,130 MW Salem Nuke Unit 2 in New Jersey Shut May 24

Reuters, 13:38 May 24, 2007

TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas Shut May 23

Reuters, 13:38 May 24, 2007

TXU's 545 MW Sandow Coal-fired Unit 4 in Texas Shut May 22

Reuters, 13:38 May 24, 2007

Sempra/Oxy's 321 MW Elk Hills Gas-fired Unit in California May 23

Reuters, 13:38 May 24, 2007

Entergy's 966 MW River Bend Nuke Unit in Louisiana Shut May 23

Reuters, 09:03 May 24, 2007

TXU's 575 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas Restarted May 23

Reuters, 09:03 May 24, 2007

CDWR's 853 MW Hyatt-Therm Hydroelectric Plant in California Shut May 23

Reuters, 09:03 May 24, 2007

OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 1 Returns to Service May 24

The unit was shut on February 26, 2007

Reuters, 08:43 May 24, 2007

OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 7 Returns to Service May 24

The unit was shut on May 15, 2007

Reuters, 08:43 May 24, 2007

Bruce's 790 MW Bruce Nuke Unit 7 in Ontario Shut May 21

Reuters, 13:38 May 24, 2007

OPG's 494 MW Lambton Coal-fired Unit 3 in Ontario Shut May 21

Reuters, 13:38 May 24, 2007

Petroleum

ConocoPhillips' 247,000 b/d Belle Chasse Refinery in Louisiana Shuts May 23

Refinery Begins Restart May 24

The refinery shut after a power failure and a fire caused some damage to the refinery yesterday. Some units are beginning to restart while ConocoPhillips investigates what caused the outage.

Bloomberg News, 11:39 May 24, 2007

Reuters, 10:54 May 24, 2007

Valero's 170,000 b/d McKee Refinery in Texas Shuts FCC: Production Cut 80,000 b/d

The FCC was shut due to a catalyst circulation problem. Overall refinery production had been running at about 102,000 b/d and will be cut to approximately 80,000 b/d due to this problem.

Reuters, 13:54 May 24, 2007

Update: Nigerian State Oil Workers Strike, Protesting Sale of Refinery

Bloomberg News, 07:08 May 24, 2007

Reuters, 06:29 May 24, 2007

Oil Storage Tank Catches Fire Near Norway Refinery

Reuters, 05:49 May 24, 2007

Chevron Restores 15,000 Barrels a Day of Output in Nigeria

Bloomberg News, 09:45 May 24, 2007

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

100 Million Gallons Per Year Ethanol Facility Planned for Missouri

Mississippi Valley BioEnergy expects to break ground on the plant in 2008.

<http://www.whig.com/288962614453227.php>

Governments Should Favor Ethanol from Sugar Not Corn -- IEA

Two to three times as much ethanol can be produced from an acre of sugar cane as from an acre of corn according to the International Energy Agency.

Bloomberg News, 08:04 May 24, 2007

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
May 24, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	63.62	64.62	69.00
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	7.56	7.62	6.15

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

12,000 Indiana Michigan Power Customers in Indiana Lost Power May 23

http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/journalgazette/news/17273275.htm?source=rss&channel=journalgazette_news

GAO and FTC Downplay Oil Industry Consolidation over Past Decade as Factor for Soaring Gasoline Prices

Oil Daily, May 24, 2007

Senate Committee Critical of Slow Pace of Progress in U.S. Coal Mine Safety

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/6387820.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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